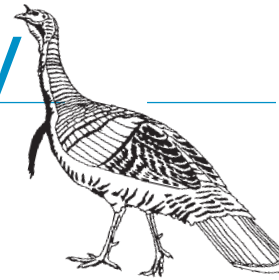


# Spring Turkey

2006

Hunting Regulations  
State of Montana



## General Regulations

These regulations apply to all legally described spring male turkey hunting districts and areas.

**Spring Season** — April 8 - May 21, 2006

**Licenses** — The following licenses are available at all Fish, Wildlife and Parks offices and most license providers throughout the state.

	Res.	Nonres.
Conservation License (required prerequisite*)	\$8	\$10
Spring Season Turkey License	\$6.50	\$115
Upland Game Bird License (required prerequisite for residents only)	\$7.5	\$110
Resident Youth Upland Game Bird License (15-17 years of age; required prerequisite for residents only)	\$3	NA
Hunting Access Enhancement Fee	\$2	\$10

\*The resident Sportsman's License, the nonresident Big Game Combination License, nonresident Elk Combination License or the nonresident Deer Combination License serve as the prerequisite license(s).

Montana residents 12-14 years of age, 62 years of age and older, or holders of a Disabled Resident Conservation License, need only the conservation license and a valid turkey license to hunt turkey. Persons under 12 years of age may not hunt turkey.

**Hunter Education** - All persons born after January 1, 1985, are required to provide proof of completion of a Montana hunter safety and education course or an approved hunter safety course from any other state or province prior to applying for or purchasing a hunting license.

**Limit** - The total combined harvest limit of the spring and fall seasons cannot exceed two turkeys per hunter. For example, if you kill two turkeys during the spring season, you may not hunt turkey during the fall season.

Turkey hunters have the following options to harvest a turkey during the spring season:

- harvest one male turkey in the general hunting area, or special permit area or administrative Region 7.
- harvest two male turkeys in administrative Region 7
- harvest one male turkey in the general hunting area or special permit area and one male turkey in administrative Region 7

Administrative Region 7 includes: Garfield, Rosebud, Treasure, Prairie, Custer, Powder River, Richland, Dawson, Wibaux, Fallon and Carter counties.

**Means of taking -**

Wild turkey may be taken with:

- a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge; and/or
- a long, recurve or compound bow and arrow

The following methods or devices are prohibited in taking game birds and animals:

- The use of any chemical or explosive device attached to an arrow to aid in the taking of wildlife.

**Private Land Access:** Montana law requires permission for all hunting on private land. Even if the land is not posted, hunters must have permission from the landowner, lessee, or their agent before hunting on private property. Landowners may grant permission face-to-face, over the phone, in writing, or by posting signs that explain the type of hunting allowed—game species or sex—and under what conditions. Visit FWP's website for the 2005 Interactive Hunt Planner or visit [nris.mt.gov/gis](http://nris.mt.gov/gis) for assistance with land ownership.

**Railroad Access -** Railroad right-of-ways are private property and may not be hunted without permission.

**State School Trust Lands Recreational Use License -**

- The \$10 fee of the past has been replaced by a \$2 addition to the conservation license, which allows hunters, anglers and trappers access to all legally accessible state school trust lands. Trappers will still need to secure a "Special State Lands Recreational Use License" from DNRC at no additional charge.
- Other recreational activities such as hiking and bird watching still require the \$10 fee. These activities cannot, by Federal statute, be covered by the conservation license. Such a diversion could jeopardize \$12 million in federal funds Montana receives annually for fish and wildlife management.

**Indian Reservations -** Hunters hunting on Indian reservations should check Indian reservation regulations because season dates, shooting hours and bag limits may differ from state regulations.

**Checking Stations -** All hunters are required to stop as directed at all designated check stations on their way to and from hunting and fishing areas, even if they have no game or fish to be checked.

**Tagging -** Immediately after harvesting the wild turkey, cut out the proper month and day from the license and affix the license to the turkey so it remains secure and visible at all times.

**Evidence of Sex -** No person shall transport within the state any turkey taken during the spring turkey gobbler season unless one leg and foot are left naturally attached for evidence of sex. The leg and foot shall remain attached at all times while being transported from the place where taken until they have arrived at the permanent residence of the possessor.

**Wanton Waste -** It is illegal to waste any part of any game animal, game bird, or game fish suitable for food. Following are turkey parts suitable for food: breasts, thighs and wings.

**It is unlawful for anyone to hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal or game bird:**

- from any self propelled (that is, motorized) or drawn vehicle;
- on, from, or across any public highway or the shoulder, berm, or barrow pit right-of-way of any public highway (the entire width between the boundary lines of every publicly maintained way when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel, MCA 61-1-202) in the state of Montana; or
- by the aid or with the use of any set gun, jacklight, spotlight or other artificial light, trap, snare, salt lick, or bait. (MCA 87-3-101) (Baiting shall mean the placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of corn, wheat, or other grain or food sources so as to constitute a lure or attraction. Nothing shall prohibit the taking of birds over standing crops or harvested cropland or grains scattered as a result of agricultural harvesting.)

**Recorded Animal or Bird Sounds** - It is unlawful to use any recorded or electrically amplified bird or animal calls, sounds or imitations of bird or animal calls or sounds to assist in the hunting, taking, killing or capturing of any wildlife except predatory animals. (MCA 87-3-108).

**Hunting Hours** - One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Complete sunrise/sunset tables as adopted by the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission are available at all FWP offices and most license providers.

### Annual Hunting & Harvest Survey

#### We're counting on you!

For over 20 years, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks has conducted an annual telephone survey to gather hunting and harvest information for Montana game species. The survey begins in late January and continues into March.

Telephone interviewers located across the state call from their homes midweek evenings and weekends to speak to hunters one-on-one to get the most accurate information possible. Results from the statewide survey are used by wildlife managers to evaluate past hunting seasons and to set permit quotas, season dates and other regulations for future years.

So, when your phone rings in the coming months, you might not recognize the name on your Caller ID but it could be a friendly Fish, Wildlife and Parks interviewer wanting to visit with you about your past season's hunting activity.



### General Hunting Areas (includes Administrative Region 7)

The following counties are open to all hunters who hold a valid current year Spring Turkey License. Special permits are not required in these areas: Flathead Valley (see legal description). In addition, Hill, FWP Region 6 portion of Chouteau, Fergus, Wheatland, Sweet Grass, Stillwater and Carbon counties and all counties lying east of these.

Portion of Chouteau County open to hunting includes: that portion of FWP Region 6 in Chouteau County north of the Missouri and east of the Marias Rivers.

#### Flathead Valley

Turkey are found primarily on private land and access is limited and difficult.

General hunting area open to all hunters who hold a valid spring turkey license. All of Flathead County and that portion of Lake County lying within the following described boundary: Beginning on the shoreline of Flathead Lake at the junction of the Flathead County Line, then easterly along the county line to the Swan Divide, then southerly along said divide to USFS Trail 10 in Section 36, T26N, R18W, then southwesterly along said trail to USFS Road 9508 (Six Mile Road), then southerly along said road to Route 83, then southerly along said route to USFS Road 10229 (Porcupine Creek Road), then westerly and southerly along said road to the south boundary of T26N, the 6th Standard Parallel North, then west along said township line to the Flathead Indian Reservation boundary, then north and west along said boundary to the east shore of Flathead Lake, then north along the shore of said lake to the Flathead County line, the point of beginning.

## Special Permit Application Process

Hunters must possess a special spring male turkey permit, in conjunction with their valid spring turkey license, to hunt in special permit hunting areas. Applicants may apply for a special spring male turkey permit in only one area of the state. The special spring male turkey permit allows the hunter to hunt in the described area during the time period specified on the permit. Permit quotas listed in these regulations are tentative for 2006.

Applications must be postmarked no later than March 15 of the current year, to be eligible for the drawing. Successful applicants will be notified by mail and will be required to purchase a valid spring turkey license before hunting.

## Special Permit Hunting Areas

### Lincoln and Sanders Counties

Applicants must apply for either Sanders or Lincoln county area and submit in writing their name, address, ALS number, and a \$5 nonrefundable drawing fee to MFW&P, Turkey Drawing, 490 N Meridian Rd, Kalispell, MT 59901 or apply online at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov).

#### Lincoln County

Special Permit Spring, Drawing Only. Apply by Mar 15.

182-20: 300 permits. Lincoln County

• Apr 08 - May 21 – Male Turkey.

#### Sanders County

Special Permit Spring, Drawing Only. Apply by Mar 15.

183-20: 200 permits. Sanders County

• Apr 08 - May 21 – Male Turkey.

Continued on page 6

### **Bitterroot Valley Area**

Applicants must submit in writing their name, address, ALS number, and a \$5 nonrefundable drawing fee to MFW&P, Turkey Drawing, 3201 Spurgin Rd, Missoula, MT 59804 or apply online at fwp.mt.gov.

#### **Granite County**

Special Permit Spring. Drawing Only. Apply by Mar 15.

295-20: 5 permits. Powell and portion of Granite Counties

• Apr 08 - May 21 - Male Turkey.

#### **Mineral County**

Special Permit Spring. Drawing Only. Apply by Mar 15.

282-20: 15 permits. Mineral County

• Apr 08 - May 21 - Male Turkey.

#### **Missoula County**

Special Permit Spring. Drawing Only. Apply by Mar 15.

283-20: 30 permits. Missoula County

• Apr 08 - May 21 - Male Turkey.

283-21: 5 permits. Only youth ages 12-14. Missoula County

• Apr 08 - May 21 - Male Turkey. Only youth ages 12-14.

#### **Powell County**

Special Permit Spring. Drawing Only. Apply by Mar 15.

295-20: 5 permits. Powell and portion of Granite Counties

• Apr 08 - May 21 - Male Turkey.

#### **Ravalli County**

Special License. Purchase at License Providers or Online

285-20: Unlim permits. Ravalli County

• Apr 08 - May 21 - Male Turkey.

285-21: Unlim permits. Only youth ages 12-14. Ravalli County

• Apr 08 - May 21 - Male Turkey. Only youth ages 12-14.

### **Admin Reg 3 and Park County**

Applicants must apply for either FWP Admin Reg 3 or Park county and submit in writing their name, address, ALS number, and a \$5 nonrefundable drawing fee to MFW&P, Turkey Drawing, 1400 South 19th, Bozeman, MT 59718 or apply online at fwp.mt.gov.

#### **Park County**

Special Permit Spring. Drawing Only. Apply by Mar 15.

385-20: 20 permits. Park County

• Apr 08 - May 21 - Male Turkey.

385-21: 2 permits. Only youth ages 12-14. Park County

• Apr 08 - May 21 - Male Turkey. Only youth ages 12-14.

#### **FWP Admin Reg 3**

Special Permit Spring. Drawing Only. Apply by Mar 15.

395-20:20 permits. Beaverhead, Silver Bow, Jefferson, Broadwater, Madison and Gallatin Counties

• Apr 08 - May 21 - Male Turkey.

395-21: 2 permits. Only youth ages 12-14. Beaverhead, Silver Bow, Jefferson, Broadwater, Madison and Gallatin

• Apr 08 - May 21 - Male Turkey. Only youth ages 12-14.

## Defensive Turkey Hunting Tactics

**A safe turkey hunter, like a safe driver, is defensive minded. Below are some tips you should consider.**

- Select the largest stump, blow-down, tree-trunk, or rock to place your back against when calling; a hunter is more likely to spot another hunter moving to the front or side than from behind.
- Eliminate the colors white, red, black and blue from your hunting outfit; this includes handkerchiefs, socks, underwear, etc.
- Select your calling spot in open timber rather than thick brush; eliminating movement is a key to success, not concealment.
- In areas of high hunter concentrations, wear blaze orange when walking to and from your vehicle; this is also a good idea when carrying a bird out of the woods.
- Be discreet when imitating the sound of a gobbling turkey.
- When songbirds, crows or your turkey shuts up--look out; there's a good chance another hunter is moving in on your bird.
- Never move, wave or make turkey sounds to alert another hunter of your presence; remain still, cough or holler.

These regulations are adopted under the authority granted to the Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission (FWPC) in MCA 87-1-301 and are valid March 1, 2006 through February 28, 2007. These tentative regulations were adopted by the FWPC on December 8, 2005. The FWPC reserves the authority to amend the seasons, limits and regulations herein if deemed necessary for wildlife management purposes.  
M. Jeff Hagener, Director.

State and Federal laws, Title VI of Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, or disability. Anyone believing he or she has been discriminated against (as described above) in any Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) program, activity, or facility may write to FWP Personnel Office, 1420 East Sixth Avenue, PO Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701 or the office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.



ZONE 1				
Day	April		May	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
1	6:14	7:06	6:20	8:47
2	6:12	7:07	6:18	8:48
3	6:10	7:09	6:17	8:50
4	7:08	8:10	6:15	8:51
5	7:06	8:11	6:14	8:52
6	7:05	8:13	6:12	8:54
7	7:03	8:14	6:11	8:55
8	7:01	8:16	6:10	8:56
9	6:59	8:17	6:08	8:57
10	6:57	8:18	6:07	8:59
11	6:55	8:20	6:06	9:00
12	6:53	8:21	6:04	9:01
13	6:51	8:22	6:03	9:02
14	6:49	8:24	6:02	9:04
15	6:48	8:25	6:00	9:05
16	6:46	8:26	5:59	9:06
17	6:44	8:28	5:58	9:07
18	6:42	8:29	5:57	9:09
19	6:40	8:31	5:56	9:10
20	6:38	8:32	5:55	9:11
21	6:37	8:33	5:54	9:12
22	6:35	8:35	5:53	9:13
23	6:33	8:36	5:52	9:14
24	6:32	8:37	5:51	9:15
25	6:30	8:39	5:50	9:16
26	6:28	8:40	5:49	9:17
27	6:26	8:42	5:49	9:18
28	6:25	8:43	5:48	9:19
29	6:23	8:44	5:47	9:20
30	6:22	8:46	5:46	9:21
31			5:46	9:22

ZONE 3				
Day	April		May	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
1	5:56	6:48	6:01	8:29
2	5:54	6:49	6:00	8:30
3	5:52	6:51	5:58	8:32
4	6:50	7:52	5:57	8:33
5	6:48	7:53	5:55	8:34
6	6:46	7:55	5:54	8:36
7	6:44	7:56	5:52	8:37
8	6:42	7:58	5:51	8:38
9	6:40	7:59	5:49	8:40
10	6:38	8:00	5:48	8:41
11	6:36	8:02	5:47	8:42
12	6:35	8:03	5:45	8:44
13	6:33	8:04	5:44	8:45
14	6:31	8:06	5:43	8:46
15	6:29	8:07	5:42	8:47
16	6:27	8:09	5:40	8:49
17	6:25	8:10	5:39	8:50
18	6:23	8:11	5:38	8:51
19	6:22	8:13	5:37	8:52
20	6:20	8:14	5:36	8:53
21	6:18	8:15	5:35	8:54
22	6:16	8:17	5:34	8:56
23	6:15	8:18	5:33	8:57
24	6:13	8:20	5:32	8:58
25	6:11	8:21	5:31	8:59
26	6:09	8:22	5:30	9:00
27	6:08	8:24	5:30	9:01
28	6:06	8:25	5:29	9:02
29	6:04	8:26	5:28	9:03
30	6:03	8:28	5:27	9:04
31			5:27	9:05

## Sunrise-Sunset Tables For Determining Hunting Hours

These tables, including adjustments for daylight savings time, are the official sunrise-sunset tables adopted by the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission for hunting in Montana. **(Do not utilize from other sources).**



### ZONE 1

INCLUDES: Flathead, Granite, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders Counties

### ZONE 2

INCLUDES: Beaverhead, Broadwater, Cascade, Choteau, Deer Lodge, Gallatin, Glacier, Hill, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Liberty, Madison, Meagher, Park, Pondera, Powell, Silver Bow, Teton and Toole Counties.

### ZONE 3

INCLUDES: Big Horn, Blaine, Carbon, Fergus, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Wheatland and Yellowstone Counties

### ZONE 4

INCLUDES: Carter, Custer, Daniels, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Powder River, Prairie, Richland, Roosevelt, Rosebud, Sheridan, Treasure, Valley and Wibaux Counties

ZONE 2				
Day	April		May	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
1	6:07	6:58	6:13	8:38
2	6:05	6:59	6:11	8:40
3	6:03	7:01	6:10	8:41
4	7:01	8:02	6:08	8:42
5	6:59	8:03	6:07	8:44
6	6:57	8:05	6:05	8:45
7	6:55	8:06	6:04	8:46
8	6:53	8:07	6:03	8:47
9	6:51	8:09	6:01	8:49
10	6:49	8:10	6:00	8:50
11	6:48	8:11	5:58	8:51
12	6:46	8:13	5:57	8:52
13	6:44	8:14	5:56	8:54
14	6:42	8:15	5:55	8:55
15	6:40	8:17	5:54	8:56
16	6:38	8:18	5:52	8:57
17	6:36	8:19	5:51	8:59
18	6:35	8:21	5:50	9:00
19	6:33	8:22	5:49	9:01
20	6:31	8:24	5:48	9:02
21	6:29	8:25	5:47	9:03
22	6:28	8:26	5:46	9:04
23	6:26	8:28	5:45	9:05
24	6:24	8:29	5:44	9:06
25	6:23	8:30	5:43	9:07
26	6:21	8:32	5:43	9:09
27	6:19	8:33	5:42	9:10
28	6:18	8:34	5:41	9:11
29	6:16	8:36	5:40	9:11
30	6:14	8:37	5:40	9:12
31			5:39	9:13

ZONE 4				
Day	April		May	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
1	5:42	6:33	5:49	8:13
2	5:40	6:34	5:47	8:14
3	5:38	6:36	5:46	8:16
4	6:36	7:37	5:44	8:17
5	6:34	7:38	5:43	8:18
6	6:32	7:40	5:41	8:20
7	6:31	7:41	5:40	8:21
8	6:29	7:42	5:38	8:22
9	6:27	7:44	5:37	8:23
10	6:25	7:45	5:36	8:25
11	6:23	7:46	5:34	8:26
12	6:21	7:48	5:33	8:27
13	6:19	7:49	5:32	8:28
14	6:17	7:50	5:31	8:30
15	6:16	7:52	5:29	8:31
16	6:14	7:53	5:28	8:32
17	6:12	7:54	5:27	8:33
18	6:10	7:56	5:26	8:34
19	6:08	7:57	5:25	8:36
20	6:07	7:58	5:24	8:37
21	6:05	8:00	5:23	8:38
22	6:03	8:01	5:22	8:39
23	6:02	8:02	5:21	8:40
24	6:00	8:04	5:20	8:41
25	5:58	8:05	5:19	8:42
26	5:57	8:06	5:18	8:43
27	5:55	8:08	5:18	8:44
28	5:53	8:09	5:17	8:45
29	5:52	8:10	5:16	8:46
30	5:50	8:12	5:15	8:47
31			5:15	8:48



**Montana Fish,  
Wildlife & Parks**

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